AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (currently amended): A funnel for use in a cathode ray tube comprising:

a wide open end of generally rectangular shape;

a maximum profile line formed in the vicinity of the wide open end by mold matching of forming molds;

a narrow open end of generally circular shape; and

a positioning reference portion disposed on an outer wall thereof used for sealing with a panel for the cathode ray tube,

wherein an upper end edge of the positioning reference portion is formed at a distance from the maximum profile line toward the narrow open end, and wherein a reference surface of the positioning reference portion is formed inside [[of]] the maximum profile line ~~when viewed from the axial direction of the funnel~~.

Claim 5 (currently amended) A funnel for use in a cathode ray tube comprising:

a wide open end of generally rectangular shape, extending horizontally;

a maximum profile line formed in the vicinity of the wide open end by mold matching of forming molds;

a narrow open end of generally circular shape; and

a positioning reference portion disposed on an outer wall thereof used for sealing with a panel for the cathode ray tube,

wherein an upper end edge of the positioning reference portion is formed at a distance from the maximum profile line toward the narrow open end,

wherein when a distance in the vertical [[axial]] direction of the funnel from the maximum profile line to the upper end edge of the positioning reference portion is defined as h (mm), and when a distance in the vertical [[axial]] direction of the funnel from the wide open end to the narrow open end is defined as H (mm), $h \leqq 0.2H$ is satisfied, and,

wherein a reference surface of the positioning reference portion is formed inside ~~of~~ the maximum profile line ~~when viewed from the axial direction of the funnel~~.

Claim 6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (currently amended): ~~A funnel for use in a cathode ray tube according to claim 6,~~

A funnel for use in a cathode ray tube comprising:

an upper end having a wide and rectangular opening, extending horizontally;

a lower end having a narrow and circular opening, opposing the upper end;

an outer wall extending between the upper end and the lower end, communicating between the wide and rectangular opening and the narrow and circular opening, wherein the outer wall is formed to have a maximum profile line at the vicinity of the upper end; and

a positioning reference portion provided below the maximum profile line on the outer wall, wherein the positioning reference portion is used for sealing a cathode ray tube panel, and

wherein the position reference portion is formed not to project its upper end edge from the outer wall surface.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A funnel for cathode ray tube comprising:

an upper end having a wide and rectangular opening, extending horizontally;

a lower end having a narrow and circular opening, opposing the upper end;

an outer wall extending between the upper end and the lower end, communicating between the wide and rectangular opening and the narrow and circular opening, ~~so as to have an axis,~~ wherein the outer wall is formed to have a maximum profile line at the vicinity of the upper end; and

a positioning reference portion provided slightly below the maximum profile line on the outer wall, positioned inside the maximum profile line ~~when seen from the axis~~, the positioning reference portion being used for sealing a cathode ray tube panel.